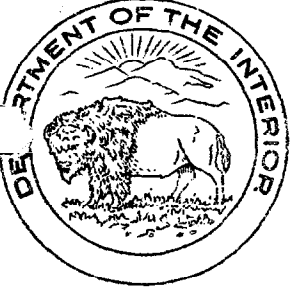


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# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF COORDINATOR OF FISHERIES

For Release to the PM's OF THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 1945.

Americans consumed an unprecedented amount of frozen fishery products in the two months prior to February 1, and cold storage holdings, which had been at record levels, are now normal.

On October 1, 1944, cold storage holdings of fishery products reached 131,383,508 pounds, the highest point on record. By December 1 holdings had dropped to 128,222,862 pounds. After that date, however, holdings dropped sharply to 111,956,048 pounds as of January 1 and to 78,813,165 as of February 1. The five-year average of holdings on February 1 is 75,353,000.

"There are indications that cold storage holdings are still being rapidly reduced and we may enter the spring with below normal holdings," Charles E. Jackson, Assistant Deputy Coordinator of Fisheries said.

"The country has been fortunate in having heavy supplies of frozen fish and other seafoods available during the winter months when other foods have not been plentiful," Mr. Jackson said.

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